

**TOWN OF SUPERIOR
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2014**

Regular Meeting of the Superior Town Council held on Thursday, November 20, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Superior Town Hall Auditorium, 199 N. Lobb Avenue, Superior, Pinal County, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Valenzuela called meeting to order at 7:02 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor led Council, Staff and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

INVOCATION

Pastor Dennis Van Gorp, Family Life Christian Center led everyone in the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Mayor	Jayne Valenzuela
Vice Mayor	Olga Lopez
Councilmember	Michael Alonzo
Councilmember	Mila Besich-Lira
Councilmember	Steve Estatico
Councilmember	John Tameron
Councilmember	Gilbert Aguilar / Excused Absence

STAFF ATTENDANCE

Town Manager	Margaret Gaston
Town Attorney	Lisa Reuter
Police Department	Mark Nipp
Fire Department	Todd Pryor
Public Works	Anthony Huerta
Public Library	Josie Campos
Sanitation WWTP	Bob Hanus
Administrative Aide	Ruby Cervantes
Town Staff	Nora Miramon

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Sonnie Sansom	Bruce Armitage
Sandra Doyle	Barbara Armitage
Nancy Vogler	Hank Gutierrez
Bill Vogler	Tina Gutierrez
Nina Crowder	Josie Campos
Doc Darr	Fred Miramon
Merry Darr	Dave Richens
Melissa Rabago	Susan Ketron
Joann Besich	Sue Anderson
Henry Munoz	Pam Rabago

REPORTS-Department Reports

Fire Department- Todd Pryor, wanted to remind everyone that the Angel Tree is being sponsored by the Fire Department. If you know anyone who is in need please let them know they can register for the Angel Tree Program in the lobby of the Fire Department. No question from Council.

Library – Josie Campos, Library will be offering computer classes. The classes will be twice a month in November, December and January on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon.

Police Department – Chief Nipp mentioned donations from the Police Department for Prostate Cancer.

Senior Center – Margaret Gaston, Paula Romero took the seniors on a trip to Casa Grande for a big meeting with Pinal Gila Council for Seniors. The advertisement for a Senior Center Director ran in the Superior Sun and will run for two weeks.

Public Works – Anthony Huerta, there is a lot more traffic than anyone thinks at the US 60 bathrooms. While we were there cleaning and making repairs we had about 30-40 people an hour. People take the tissue paper anything that is not nailed down and then you have the graffiti and he does not believe it is all done by locals alot is done by visitors. Public Works removed the water fountain due to vandalism.

Question from Mr. Tameron, what about the cameras that are on the poles across the street? Mr. Huerta and Chief Nipp answered that those cameras are out of order and have been for quite a while.

Sanitation – No comments, questions

Ms. Gaston – Seniors were taken to Hayden Senior Center for a Thanksgiving Dinner. They all seem to be really excited about all of the activities and trips they have going on. Carol Granillo is taking them on a Friday once a month to do their shopping.

Kiki Peralta and Margaret are going to area one together to visit the residents for the annexation. They are meeting at Town Hall if anyone who would like to go with them.

The Forest Department, Scott Woods gave a good presentation on the Historical Site Designation on Monday on the Oak Flats. Mr. Woods also stated this would not affect the mine.

Margaret is still working on the effluent tank project. The AC unit that was donated by the Kearny Elks Lodge has arrived and it is sitting inside the building at public works. The Town is continuing with the audits and Margaret just received a call from Matt who is with Colby and Powell. As of this afternoon we have a preliminary trial balance.

Within a few weeks we should be ready for an audit of no opinion. We will need to hire auditors for this audit. Audit cost could be about \$15,000. Colby and Powel cannot do the audit since they have helped us get all of the information ready for the audits.

Mayor – Mr. Valenzuela, he received an email regarding a new business opening up called Gemini Hospice. They will be located on the corner of Main Street and Magma Avenue where the clinic used to be. They will be having a job fair on November 24, 2014 from 11 am - 4:00 pm.

We sent a letter to Resolution Copper Company. There is a copy of this letter on the table by the stage for anyone to take. Mayor read the letter to the public. We are working diligently for this community and we are looking out for what is best for our Town and its residents.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of minutes for Regular Meeting, November 6, 2014
- B. Approval of Alcohol Permit for Frances Magallanez, Magma Club, March 7, 2015.

Motion to approve the consent agenda items A & B made by Councilmember Besich-Lira, second by Vice Mayor Lopez, motion carries

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Superior and Gila County dba Gila/Pinal Workforce Investment Board. Ms. Gaston, The purpose of this agreement is to establish local Access Points. The Access Point model consists of local entities where job search services can be provided. Josie Campos, Library Director, met with Dave Franquero, Employment specialist, who is with the Arizona Workforce Connection and the WIA Dislocated Worker Program in Gila/Pinal County. The agreement is dated July 1, 2014 to begin, but actually will be either the end of December, or January 1, 2015, if the Council agrees. Superior Library has agreed to provide space for the Access Point computer; help job seekers; send staff to initial training; agrees to abide by all Federal and State laws; and will refer customers to the One-Stop as needed.

Motion to approve the IGA between the Town of Superior and Gila County for the Gila/Pinal Workforce Investment Board made by Councilmember Estatico, second by Councilmember Besich-Lira, motion carries.

- B. Information and discussion Regarding the Pinal County Flood Control District and the Town of Superior's Drainage Issues. Chief Nipp & Margaret, Ms. Gaston mentioned that she attended a Pinal County Flood Control District meeting. The Council approved an IGA with Pinal County Flood Control district for a metering gauge on Queen Creek at Magma Avenue by the bridge. Sgt. Neuss has been working on a grant proposal to submit to the County. The grant program was pulled to help Superior and make all the money available to Superior. Pinal County Flood Control District is proposing to hire a surveying company to perform a survey of the Town. Then they will know all the drainage issues we face. They can help solve the problem. This is an informational item only. Council would like to see Mr. Huerta, Public Works Supervisor involved in this project. He would be the one to know where all of the washes are and where the problem areas are located. Councilmember Besich-Lira stated she wanted to just thank everyone for working together.

- C. Information and Vote of Support for the Formation of a Committee of the Fire Department to Preserve the 1947 Ford Seagrave Fire Truck. Ms. Gaston, Henry Munoz has volunteered to be in charge of a committee to preserve the Fire Truck that is parked in front of the Fire Department and make it parade ready. He is not asking for financial help. He would like permission to build a ramada to protect the truck while they are working on it and also after they are finished. This committee would be a totally volunteer committee. This is an information item to let the public know the work will begin on the 1947 Fire Truck and they can volunteer to help. This committee will not be under the Town guidelines for a budget, an agenda, or as an official committee. He is just asking Council for support on this idea.

Motion to approve the Support for the Formation of a Committee of the Fire Department to Reserve the 1947 Ford Seagrave Fire Truck made by Councilmember Tameron, second by Vice Mayor Lopez, motion carries.

Mayor used this time to motion to move up and open the Executive Session to the public. Motion by Councilmember Besich-Lira, second by Councilmember Estatico, motion carries.

Council needs to direct the Town Attorney, Staff we are going into Executive Session. Make a motion to appoint Steve Cooper, Town Attorney or whomever you decide to be the only contact to negotiate with Resolution Copper in conjunction with Town Manager as the Town's representatives. Councilmember Besich-Lira wanted to know why only certain people to negotiate. Mayors' response, Council's wishes. Councilmember Estatico stated this is a good starting point.

Councilmember Alonzo stated the intent is that this is a starting point and we are all in agreement that this is a starting point.

Councilmember Tameron, everything that Resolution Copper has asked for is in that letter. He will no longer participate in any communication/meetings with Resolution Copper. They will communicate with Mr. Cooper and that information will be brought back to Town Manager and Council.

Councilmember Lira, asked Mr. Richins if this letter was sufficient? Response from Mr. Richins, Resolution Copper, he was very excited to receive this letter and clarify where the Town was at. He would like to see something that lets the Company know that they are welcome in town and something to show the stake holders that this Town supports RCC project.

Vice Mayor Lopez, stated she is happy that we are talking about this publicly and excited to see the process moving forward with this being the first step.

Mayor, this is a starting point, we are still concerned about the water, and we are still concerned about the environment. Those issues are still there but this is a starting point. We are not opposed to this project and to the mine. We want this to be successful for the future of this community.

Motion to designate Mr. Cooper and Ms. Gaston as the representative for the Town of Superior to meet and start the negotiations with RCC made by Councilmember Tameron, second by Vice Mayor Lopez, motion carries.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Sandra Doyle – She is glad to see and hear that we are all trying to work together. Transparency is something that we need to make sure that everyone is doing and that when there is a special meeting that everyone knows about it and not a chosen few.

Bill Vogler- He feels the letter is a little bit lacking. What needs to be done is focus on what the people want and not what the Council wants. What Council needs to do is to look at the immediate and maybe not so much on the long term issues. Council needs to be looking out for safety, which is Fire and Police Department. We have had numerous people come in and address the water situation and they seem to know more than you all do. You need to work for the 84% and not what you want.

Nancy Vogel- First she wanted to apologize, it seems I was yelling at you when I spoke at the last meeting, I was. Thank you for opening up Executive Session. She supports the different clubs and attends the different functions that happen in Town. Dissension in the community is not a good way to work. Next week is Thanksgiving and this is the time I take to thank everyone.

Dave Richins- Just wanted to say that the Town does send out thank you notes so you have said thank you. What I get from this letter is that this Council does care about this Town and they do want what is best for this Town. This is a great outcome and appreciates their confidence in their Town Attorney and Ms. Gaston.

Hank Gutierrez- Council thank you for bringing this forward and to the public. We should not just have a Attorney and he feels the Council is falling short on their responsibilities by not having a member of the Council to be part of the negotiations. This is going to cause problems. He appreciates the transparency but we need to see more clarification on item B in the Executive Session.

Freddie Miramon- Thank you Council for the letter to Resolution Copper. He wants to let you know that he supports your efforts 100%. You represent the values and needs of the whole community and not just a select few. Please continue to act on behalf of all residents to do what is best for them now and into the future.

Pam Rabago- She also wants to thank the Town Council for opening the Executive Session. However she is requesting information from paragraph 2 and has not been able to get that information. Financial information is supposed to be public record.

At the conclusion of the call to the public, individual Town Council members may (1) respond to criticism made by those who have spoken; (2) ask staff to review a matter; or (3) ask that a matter be put on a future agenda.

Councilmember Besich-Lira – She would like to respond to Ms. Doyle’s comment. Thank you for asking about the meeting which was held on Monday. This was at the request by the Forest Service. There was no intent to make this a secret meeting.

Mayor Valenzuela – He does not believe that we are making a mistake by appointing our Town Attorney, Mr. Cooper as the Town Representative to negotiate with Resolution Copper on the Town’s behalf. Anything that occurs in those meetings is not a decision. This information will be brought back to this Council and then we will make the decisions by voting and moving forward. So he does not think they have missed the boat but thank you for all of the input.

Councilmember Tameron- This letter was put together and this was not a Christmas wish Mr. Vogler. They asked us to answer the questions that were addressed to us. He is so proud of this Council and the Mayor for bringing this out because now we all know what has been said.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Councilmember Besich-Lira – She would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Also something historic has occurred. The number 9 shaft had their last blast. She was looking at the pictures from the celebration and noticed a lot of our young men and the new generation and it made her very proud. The Optimist Club would like to thank Resolution Copper for their donation of \$5000 for the lighting for Besich Park. They will be decorating the park on Saturday at 8:00 am. So anyone who would like to help us decorate is more than welcome. There will be a Fill the Bowl fundraiser at the High School to benefit the Food Bank.

Councilmember Alonzo- Thank all of the Council for working together and this is the first step and we are moving forward. Some of these are short term issues and hopefully they will be included in the discussions. Some of these things we are addressing we need. Just like the HURF.

If we do not address some of these issues, we will be hurting ourselves and possibly lose that funding. Please remember we have a lot of other obligations; Resolution is not our only priority. We want to be partners but we have other issues and it is not our sole priority. We are trying to balance things out and it will not be fast enough for some but just trust us.

Councilmember Estatico – Just wanted to stick to current events. Would like to wish a Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Councilmember Tameron – Thank you to Mr. Munoz; this is a great project. There is a lot of history there. Also would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Would like to thank Resolution Copper for everything they have done for the Town.

Vice Mayor Lopez – Would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, enjoy your families and take the time to chat with the young kids. Thank you to Resolution Copper for their support along with other sponsors like the Catholic Church, Arizona Water Company. There are other sponsors that have participated and helped out at different events. The lighting at the park will be year round not just for the holidays.

Mayor Valenzuela – Just wanted to comment about the Finances. The Town is working on the audits as Ms. Gaston reported. So we are trying to get those available to the the public. Also please keep Mr. Aguilar and his family in our prayers. The reason for his absence is he had a death in the family. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and enjoy your families. Basketball season is here so let's support our local Basketball team.

SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

December 4th next Council Meeting, 7:00 pm

December 6th, Miracle on Main Street, 4:00 pm

December 11th Planning and Zoning Meeting, 6:00 pm

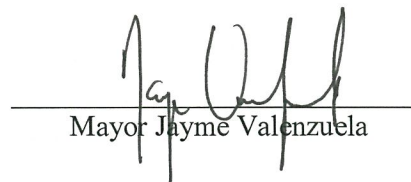
December 3rd Grand Opening of the San Tan Valley Family Advocacy Center, 10:00 am

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Councilmember Estatico, second by Councilmember Besich-Lira, motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm

Attest:


Town Manager, Margaret Gaston


Mayor Jayme Valenzuela